Whitehall

WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH
31 OCT 1939
A.

New Radnor Rural District Council

ANNUAL REPORT of the District Medical Officer of Health for the Year of Grace Nineteen hundred and thirty eight.

Section A Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area in Acres - 51.892
Population - 2408
Number of Inhabited Houses - 658
Rateable Value (After deducting tithe) £5523
Sum represented by 1d Rate
(a) excluding tithe ~~£20 0 0~~ £ 20·6·2
(b) including tithe grant ~~£28 6 11~~. £ 27·12·9

Social Conditions

Quarry work fluctuates a good deal, men often being temporarily out of work, but is satisfactory on the whole. Farming is moderately busy; sheep farmers suffered from the fall in prices.

Vital Statistics	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births (legitimate)	28	12	13
(Illegitimate)		1	2
Still Births (legitimate)		0	1
(Illegitimate)	2	0	1
Deaths	31	14	17

Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population -11.6
Live and Still Births 11.7
Death Rate per 1000 of resident population - 12.5

Deaths from Puerperal Causes - 0

	Deaths	Rate per 100 total births
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
No. 30 Other Causes	0	0
Total	0	0

Death Rate of Infants under One year of age :-
All Infants per 1000 live births 71.4
- 35.7 legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births and 35.7 illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.

The causes of death were as follows.

Cancer	8
Measles	0
Whooping cough	0
Diarrhoea	0

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

There is no evidence that unemployment has had a significant influence upon the health of either children or adults in the District.

Although it is largely a farming district, there is often difficulty in obtaining an adequate supply of fresh milk, few farmers being registered for supplying, Others send all theirs away to the large chocolate firms. I have seen several cottages which were surrounded by castle in pastureland whose tenants thought of fresh milk and cream as a luxury for one day in the week.

The incid ence of infectious diseases is very low indeed In general the standard of health is satisfactory.

Section B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area

1. The Public Health work is carried out by the part-time Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. P. Lingen, whose report is attached, and by myself as part-time Medical Officer.

2. (a) Laboratory facilities remain unchanged.
(b) Ambulance facilities remain unchanged and have proved adequate.
(c) Nursing in the Home - facilities remain unchanged.
(d) Clinics. An Infant Welfare Clinic has been institut at Walton during the year. This is held monthly and has proved most successful.

Orthopaedic and Ophthalmis cases, ante-natal maternaty work is carried on as before. The District Nurse is responsible for maternity work, school inspections, general nursing and is under the Clinic Committee

(e) The District is served by Kington, Llandrindod Wells and Hereford Hospitals. The arrangements with the Hay Fever Hospital has been renewed.

Section B.

(3) Maternity & Child Welfare - vide supra, re welfare clinic. The health visiting is in the hands of the District Nurse Dental and Orthopaedic cases &c are made by the County Medical Officer at the School Inspections.

Section C. Sanitary Conditions of the Area

(1) Water The water supplies of the District are satisfactory in quality and quantity. The latest undertaking of this nature being that for Walton, which, after some little trouble, is now giving pure water.

Samples of water for analysis are taken by the Sanitary Inspector from time to time.

These notes do not of course apply to all private supplies of which there are many at outlying farms, small holdings &c.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage

No main drainage. As the distrist is sparsely populated, the present conditions are quite satisfactory, if care is taken to rectify any isolated cases of neglected privies &c.

Rivers & Streams Village streams are cleaned out periodically

Closet Accommodation Mostly privies and earth closets. Some of the larger houses and farms have private cess-pits on the water carriage system. New Radnor School has been fitted with water closets.

Public Cleansing Steps are being taken for the provision of a rubbish dump at New Radnor.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area See attached report.

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Shops & Offices - No action taken.

Camping Sites There are no official camping sites in the Area. The density of population and amount of camping done is so small relatively and of such a transitory nature, that no supervision is ordinarily needed

The maximum number of campers in the area in 1938 at any one time may be estimated at about 20.

Smoke Abatement No action taken.

Swimming Baths - None in area

Eradication of bed bugs - None discovered in area

Schools Sanitary conditions and water supplies satisfactory. As has been noted above, New Radnor School has been fitted with water closets

The incidence of infectious diseases in the Schools in the area is low.

Housing

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	16
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	30
(2) (a) No. of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932	-
(b) No. of Inspections made for the purpose	7
(3) No. of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	-
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respect: reasonably fit for human habitation	9

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of formal Notices

No. of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	9

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(a) - Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	
(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	-
(2) No. of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a) By owners	-
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	-
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	-
(2) No. of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notice	
(a) by owners	-
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	-

(c) Proceedings under Section 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition Orders were made -

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders -

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

(1) No. of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made -

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement of room having been rendered fit. -

4. Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

(a) (1) No. of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 2

(2) No. of families dwelling therein 2

(3) No. of persons dwelling therein 13

(b) No. of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year -

(c) (1) No. of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 6

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 36

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding -

~~(e)~~-

Section E Inspection and Supervision of Food

~~Food~~

(a) Milk Supply There are 19 registered milk vendors in the area. 8 samples were taken during the year

(b) Meat and Other Foods There is only one slaughter house in the district, which is quite satisfactory.

Carcases Inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
No. killed (if known)	70	-	2	250	65
No. inspected	55		2	150	52
Number wholly or partly condemned					
All diseases except T.B.	Nil		Nil	Nil	Nil
T.B. only	Nil		Nil	Nil	Nil

(c) Adulteration - No action taken.

(d) Chemical & Bacteriological Examination of Food - None.

(e) Nutrition Milk is supplied at the Schools, but as has been noted earlier in this report, the supplies obtainable by private individuals are often inadequate.

Informative Lectures are given periodically at the Womens Institutes and the newly formed Baby Clinic does valuable work in this direction.

(f) Shell Fish beds - None in District.

Section F Control & Prevalence of Infectious Disease

The prevalence of infectious disease in the District is low and the cases have been of a mild type. There was one unduly severe epidemic of influenza, but there were no serious cases.

Notifiable Diseases during the year

Disease	Total cases notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	0	0	
Scarlet Fever	3	0	
Diphtheria	0	0	
Enteric Fever	0	0	
Puerpepal fever	0	0	
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Other diseases Generally notifiable	0	0	
Other diseases notifiable locally	0	0	

Age Groups analysis :-

Scarlet fever - 2 cases - 5 - 10 years
1 ,, 2 - 3 ,,

Pneumonia - One cases over 65 years

3. a Blindness.

The County Council is responsible in general and the Public Assistance Committee in destitute cases

There was no ophthalmia Neonatorum

Tuberculosis There was one death in the District in 1938 and four new cases placed on the register. One of these was, however, a transfer from another district.

All the T.B.patients in the district are under the supervision of the County Tuberculosis Officer who pays periodical visits, and also examines doubtful cases which I bring to his notice.

Richard H. Jobson,
Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector of the Rural District of New Radnor for the year ended 31st December, 1939

Complaints investigated 8
Letters written 12.

Nuisances

No. of visits re nuisances	21
No. of visits re works in progress	21.

Notices issued

a. Informal	12
b. statutory	--
Notices complied with	12
Outstanding	--
Legal proceedings taken	--

Housing

Food preparing places inspections	12

Slaughter Houses &c

No. registered	1
No. of inpsections	55
No. of voluntary surrenders of carcases or part of a carcase on account of tuberculosis or other diseases, or unsound food	--
No. of seizures of unsound food	--

Cowsheds

Persons registered	19
Inspections	60

Dairies

No. registered	19
No. inspections	60

Milk Shops

No. registered	--

Bakehouses

No. registered	1
No. inspections	15

Scavenging

Privies, ashpits & cesspools emptied	5
Accumulation of refuse removed	3

Lodging Houses

No. registered	--

Offensive Trades Nil

Workshops

No. registered	15
No. Inppections	40

Water Supply

Wells sunk	None
No. of samples taken for chemical analysis	9
No. found polluted	4
No. of wells repaired	1
No. of Wells closed	-
No. of houses connected to Main Supply	-

Infectious Disease

No. of Inquiries	6
No. of cases moved to Isolation Hospital	None
No. of houses disinfected	4
No. of houses disinfected in connection with fleas, lice &c	1

House Drainage

No. laid or re-laid	4
No. cleansed, trapped, ventilated, spoutings, sinks &c rectified	6

Water Closets

No. provided	12
No. improved or repaired	6

Privies & Ashpits

No. of new ones	-
No. repaired	1
No. converted to W.C's	-
No. converted to Pail or Earth Closets	3

Total Number of Visits and Inspections made 147

Signed
J. P. Lingen,
Sanitary Inspector,
23rd August 1939